



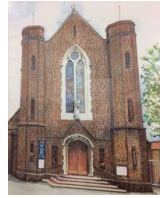
St Joseph's Catholic Church

Champion Road, Upminster

Parish Priest: Fr Matthew Bemand-Qureshi

Parish Secretary: Rachel Hayward

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PARISH NEWSLETTER

18TH / 19TH MAY 2024

PENTECOST (B) - Mass Book Pg 146

(Acts 2:1-11, 1 Corinthians 12:3-7.12-13, John 20:19-23)

When we planned the mission week last year, I must admit I didn't quite know what to expect from the 'Holy Spirit' evening, though it turned out to be one of the most powerful evenings of the week, with some moving testimony from parishioners new and old. The input from the mission team is still available to watch and listen to on our website. Many of us find it easier to think in terms of God as Father and Son, but our appreciation of the Holy Spirit is a little vaguer. In the Creed, the first words applied to the Holy Spirit are 'the Lord' and 'the Giver of life'. The Holy Spirit is God, as the Son is God and the Father is God; he is a divine person, rightly worshipped as such, with whom we can have a relationship through prayer.

The Holy Spirit is not some vague spiritual force or energy. He is Lord. But he is as close to us as the air we breathe, and as necessary for our spiritual life as air is. It's no coincidence that the Hebrew word used in the Old Testament for the Spirit of God is the word for breath - *Ruach*. The Acts of the Apostles describes the coming of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost as like a rushing wind. We cannot see the wind, but we can see its effects, causing things to move - sometimes dramatically and even violently. Similarly, we cannot see the Holy Spirit, but we can see his effects, on the church as a whole and on individual believers. The power of the Holy Spirit is revealed on the day of Pentecost not only in that wind and fire, but also in the boldness and eloquence of Peter's preaching, and the many people brought to faith as a result.

We receive the Holy Spirit in baptism, and are renewed with a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit in Confirmation. At the Saturday vigil Mass 19 members of our parish will make a public profession of faith and will then be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit in the Sacrament of Confirmation – their own Pentecost.

Pentecost is often referred to as the birthday of the Church. Fittingly, the Mother of Our Lord, already filled with the Holy Spirit, is present for this moment, united with the apostles in prayer. On Monday we celebrate the new feast of Mary, Mother of the Church; she continues to support the church with her prayers and her loving care for every one of us.

On this day the unity of the church and the universality of her message are shown with great clarity, through the presence of people of different languages who all hear the proclamation of Christ as if in their own native tongue. Let us pray that the Holy Spirit may set our hearts on fire with love, and strengthen us – confirm us – in our

commitment to serve Christ as his missionary disciples, united in the faith we profess, the Lord we serve, and our fellowship in his body the Church.

God bless, Fr Matthew

RIP: Please pray for the repose of the souls of Daphne Dickens and Eileen McCardle, who died during the week. Funeral details to follow.

CONFIRMATION: Congratulations to those being confirmed this weekend at the 6.30pm Mass, and many thanks to their families, sponsors, and our parish catechists. There is a separate booklet for this Mass. You may like to see the display of photos and their confirmation names in church.

CENTENARY APPEAL COLLECTION: This weekend there will be a second collection towards the cost of our two centenary projects, the newly-completed prayer garden and the Angelus bell which is to be installed over the summer. The aim is to fund these projects as far as possible from special donations rather than general parish income or reserves, as a way of marking last year's centenary in a lasting way. Fr Matthew published a letter about this last week, which you can [find on our website](#) under the News section.

MASS SETTING: We are in the process of introducing a new setting for the parts of the Mass, the 'Pershore' Mass. When used, the music can be found in the [supplement](#) to the Laudate hymn book at the following numbers: Lord have mercy 523, Gloria 524, Holy, holy, holy 579, Lamb of God 589.

CHURCHES TOGETHER UNITED SERVICE: Each year Churches Together in Upminster, Cranham and North Ockendon holds a week of prayer for Christian unity. To mark the beginning of the week there will be an ecumenical service St Laurence's this Sunday evening (19th May) at 6.30pm. All welcome.

ROSARY IN MAY: During Mary's month there are additional opportunities to pray the Rosary together. As well as being recited most mornings after Mass/adoration, a group will pray the Rosary at midday on Mondays, and during the Wednesday lunchtime holy hour.

YOUTH MASS, THURSDAY 6TH JUNE 2024, BRENTWOOD CATHEDRAL: This may be a busy and stressful time for many of you, particularly those taking exams. The Cathedral and Parish Hall will be open for you to socialise, pray and celebrate Mass with us, or pop in for a break from revision, change of scenery or quiet personal prayer. Pizza from 6pm in the Parish Hall, Mass at 7:30pm in the Cathedral.

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY: We are pleased to be hosting our first Charity Tribute Night featuring ABBA Chique at the Mill Hall Arts & Events Centre in Rayleigh on Friday 12th July from 7.30 to 11pm. Please spread the word among friends and family, join them at this special anniversary event and get ready to dance and sing along to your favourite ABBA hits! Tickets cost £20 plus a small booking fee and can be purchased via Eventbrite <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/abba-tribute-night-tickets-849314000037> Please keep your e-ticket to show on entry to the venue. All details can be found on the BCCS website: www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/ If you have any questions about the event, please email Julie jabbott@bccs.org.uk.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES: Join Bishop Alan on the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes (**Friday 19 – Friday 26 July**). To book, please go online: Brentwood Lourdes - Lourdes - Tangney Tours (tangney-tours.com). If you wish to discuss any aspect of the pilgrimage, please e-mail Kathryn Young or Suzanne Reeves at Lourdes@brcdt.org

RETREAT MANAGER FOR WALSINGHAM HOUSE AT ABBOTSWICK: Walsingham House are seeking to appoint a Retreat Manager for Walsingham House. The Retreat Manager will work to ensure the smooth and efficient running of retreats and leading the volunteer team. This is a live in position and ideal for someone with previous experience in youth ministry. Full details, including background information and how to apply, can be found at www.bcys.net/news/vacancies/ The closing date is Friday 24th May.

PROGRAMME LEADER FOR WALSINGHAM HOUSE AT ABBOTSWICK: Walsingham Hosue are seeking to appoint a Programme Leader. The successful applicant will work alongside the Retreat Manager helping to lead retreats for the schools and parishes of our diocese. Full details, including background information and how to apply, can be found at www.bcys.net/news/vacancies/ The closing date is Friday 24th May.

CONGRATULATIONS LIBBY HEARNE: Congratulations to Libby Hearne who together with 8 girls from her stables rode over 1000 miles during the month of April for Canter for a Cure raising £1,420 for charity in the process.

PACT (THE PRISON ADVICE & CARE TRUST): We are recruiting a full-time, permanent head of fundraising - homebased/hybrid, within commutable distance of Peckham. A pioneering national charity, Pact provides caring and life changing services to men and women in prison, to people with convictions on release and in the community, and to their children and families. All the details for the role are here: <https://pact.livevacancies.co.uk/#/job/details/1468?target=internal>

BATTLE OF THE ORGANS CONCERT: On Saturday 29th June at 8.00 p.m., a one-off event will take place in Brentwood Cathedral...a Battle of the Organs. The mighty Cathedral instrument will go head-to-head with a new Allen GX350. Allen Organs UK are very kindly lending us the instrument not only for the Battle, but also for the following morning to allow the Cathedral Choir to sing one of the great French double organ Masses at the 11.30 a.m. Mass. Our grateful thanks go to Liz and Paul Arkwright at Allen Organs UK for their kindness, generosity and support for this event. In charge of these instruments on the night will be Donald MacKenzie (Organist of the Odeon, Leicester Square) and James Davy (formerly Master of Music of Chelmsford Cathedral and currently Organist at the Royal Hospital School, Holbrook). We can promise you highly entertaining evening as these two amazing organists put these organs through their paces, and 'pull out all the stops' to give us a concert to remember. Tickets are £15 and £7.50 for under 16s, and available from Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/83220321803>

A DAY WITH MARY PILGRIMAGES Further information on 'A Day With Mary 2024' Pilgrimages to Fatima (7-14 June) and Italy (4-12 September) is available at www.adaywithmary.org or email adwmary.uk@gmail.com

VOLUNTEER AT THE ST JOHN BOSCO CHILDREN'S CAMP: from 27th July – 3rd August help give 100 children a holiday. Helpers must be 18+, and the Camp will arrange for a DBS check, and appropriate training. To help at the Bosco Camp is a wonderful experience, and now is the time to apply. Details: www.boscocamp.co.uk

CAMPION SCHOOL OPEN EVENING The Champion School would like to warmly invite parents/carers and year 5 boys to our Open Evening on **Wednesday 26th June** from 4.30 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. The Headteacher's talk will be at 5.00 p.m. and repeated at 6.30 p.m. Please visit our school website for more details www.thecampionschool.org.uk

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Sat 18th May

5.30pm—6.15pm

6.30pm

ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS

Edward Horigan RIP Anniv. (Etna & Girls) (Confirmation)

Sun 19th May

9.00am

PENTECOST

People of the parish

11.00am

Alf Driscoll RIP Anniv. (Family)

Mon 20th May

9.15am

MARY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH

Mary Doherty RIP (Green)

Tues 21st May

9.15am

Lar Fennessy RIP (Adrian, Michelle & Family) (With our Year 2 children)

Wed 22nd May

9.15am

Catherine Florence Reeves RIP 100th Birthday (Family)

12 noon—1pm

ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS

Thur 23rd May

9.15am

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST THE ETERNAL HIGH PRIEST

Larry Fennessy RIP (Nicholson)

Frid 24th May

9.15am

Jackie Presland RIP 6th Anniv. (Gerry)

Sat 25th May

5.30pm—6.15pm

6.30pm

ST BEDE THE VENERABLE, PR, D

ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS

Jodie Murphy RIP Anniv. (Raife Family)

Sun 26th May

9.00am

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

Sam Wingrove RIP Anniv. (Cunningham)

11.00am

People of the parish

USEFUL INFORMATION

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION & CONFESSIONS: Saturday evening 5.30-6.15pm and Wednesday 12 noon-1pm. Confessions also available on request when Fr Matthew is available or by appointment.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Mon-Fri 9am-12.30pm (except Wednesdays).

Fr Matthew (emergencies—voice only): 020 3332 0486

St Joseph's School - School office 01708-220277

Sacred Heart of Mary School - School office 01708-222660

Baptisms & weddings - please speak to Fr Matthew after Mass

Repository: Saturdays before & after Mass, and Sundays after the 9am Mass until 10.55am

Queen's Hospital: If someone staying in the hospital would like Holy Communion, please contact the lay chaplaincy coordinator Helen Miranda on 01708 477890. In an emergency ask the ward staff to request the on-call Catholic priest via switchboard.

Facebook: [stjosephschurchupminster](https://www.facebook.com/stjosephschurchupminster) **Web:** www.stjosephschurchupminster.com

**PLEASE ENSURE YOU ARE AWARE OF THE POSITION OF THE
EMERGENCY FIRE EXIT DOORS IN THE CHURCH, AND PLEASE ENSURE THAT ALL
MOBILE TELEPHONES ARE SILENCED BEFORE THE SERVICE BEGINS**